

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT - PRACTICAL SKILL TEACHING SHEET

ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE

SCENE SIZE-UP

Assess: Need for body substance isolation, Scene safety, Trauma(MOI) or Medical(NOI) nature, and Number of Patients

ASSESSMENT

Perform initial assessment and focused or detailed assessment as indicated.
Obtain history of present illness: O-P-Q-R-S-T
Obtain S-A-M-P-L-E history
Obtain base line vital signs

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE - EPINEPHRINE ADMINISTRATION (AUTO-INJECTOR)

Actions:

- Dilates the bronchioles
- Constricts blood vessels

Side Effects:

- Increases heart rate
- Headache
- Pallor
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Vomiting
- Chest pain
- Excitability, anxiousness

Indications: (must meet the following three criteria)

- Assessment reveals patient exhibiting the assessment findings of an allergic reaction.
- Medication is prescribed for this patient by a physician.
- Medical direction authorizes use for this patient.

Contraindications:

- No contraindications when used in a life-threatening situation.

Standard Pre-filled Dosages are:

- Adult - one adult auto-injector (0.3 mg)
- Infant and child - one infant/child auto injector (0.15 mg)

Administration:

Obtain order from medical direction either on-line or off-line (**Per local protocol**).

Perform focused assessment for allergic reaction patient and record findings.

Obtain patient's prescribed auto injector.

Ensure medication is not discolored (If liquid may not be visible inside all types of devices).

Remove safety cap from the auto-injector.

Place tip of auto-injector against the thigh and press firmly until the injector activates.

(OVER)

Hold injector firmly against thigh for a minimum of 10 seconds to allow for full dose delivery.

Record activity and time.

Dispose of injector in biohazard container.

Perform reassessment and record findings:

- Transport
- Continue focused assessment of airway, breathing and circulatory status.

If patient condition continues to worsen:

- Decreasing mental status
- Increasing breathing difficulty
- Decreasing blood pressure
- Obtain medical direction
- Additional dose of epinephrine
- Treat for shock
- Prepare to initiate Basic Cardiac Life support measures (CPR/AED)

If patient condition improves, provide supportive care:

- Oxygen
- Treat for shock (hypoperfusion)